

same spot, when the ants were all disappeared, and the poor flies were seen in a languishing and dying state.

“ The little gentleman with surprise, asked what could be the reason, that the ants were all gone, and that the flies appeared in so languishing and miserable a state? His father told him, that the flies were a luxurious and careless brood, who considered only the present moment, without taking any care for the future, and that was the reason he now saw them perishing for want. On the other hand, the ants, of which he saw not a single one, were all now safe in their cells, enjoying at ease the fruits of their summer’s labour; but that, as soon as the warm weather returned, he would see them again, busy as before, preparing against the subsequent winter, which they know will come.”

As soon as Florella had finished reading, Amintor observed, that the moral

of this story was very clear: it represented those wise people, who in the midst of plenty, lay up against a scarcity. Thus we should, in our youth, lay up some portion of what we then get, to enable us to go through the evening of life more cheery. The flies represent those silly and frivolous people, who think not beyond the present moment, waste and squander every thing as fast as they get it, and in the evening of their lives, are reduced to misery, want, and beggary.

Mr. Stubbs was very much pleased with Amintor and his sister; that for reading so prettily, and the other for making so just and sensible a reservation thereon. He therefore gave them a leave of our little moralists, having let them a fresh lesson for themselves.

As soon as Mr. Stubbs was gone, pretty Florella and her brother,